

IBM SevOne Network Performance Management

License Measurement Methodology

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Program Details

Product Name/Family	IBM SevOne Network Performance Management
Metric(s)	Managed Client Device; Managed Device
Version(s)	8.X; 7.X; 6.8; 6.7; 6.6; 6.5; 6.4; 6.3; 6.1
Product ID/(s)	5900-AN1
General Availability	November 30, 2011

Change Log

Date	Changes
April 2023	Initial version
November 2023	Added additional version releases up to and including v6.7
March 2024	Updated some wording and screenshots. Replaced the part number section with a link to the Product Search result on the IBM Software Licensing & Compliance website. Added V6.8
June 2024	Added V7.0. Replaced License Information and Announcement Letter listings with links to Product Search.
November 2024	Added V7.1. No other changes.
July 2025	Added ICMP Availability Only definitions to Managed Client Device classification. Added new instructions on the simplified reporting of Metering Metrics (License Utilization) for IBM SevOne versions 8.0+. Separated reporting instructions for versions 7.2.X and older.

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Description of Applicable Metrics

Managed Device

Managed Device is a unit of measure by which the Program can be licensed. A Device is a physical component that is managed by the Program. Sufficient entitlements must be obtained to cover all Devices managed by the Program.

Examples include Routers, Network Switches, Servers (physical and virtual), Load Balancers, Firewalls SD-WAN Controllers, SD-WAN Routers, SDN Controller, Wi-Fi Controller, Network Virtual Functions, Element Management Systems, each device being monitored by an Element Management System, each device being managed by an Aggregator, Evolved Node Bs, Cell Site Routers, Aggregation Routers, Ethernet NID, Mobility Management Engines, Policy and Charging Rules Functions, Serving Gateways, PDN Gateways, Home Subscriber Server/Authentication Authorization and Accounting Servers, Call Session Control Functions, Diameter Signaling Routers, Presence Servers, AWS Cloud Resources (EC2 instances, Direct Connects, Transit Gateways, etc.), Azure Cloud Resources (Azure Virtual Machines, Virtual Machine Scale Sets, etc.), Kubernetes clusters and Kubernetes nodes.

Managed Client Device

Managed Client Device is a unit of measure by which the Program can be licensed. A Client Device is a single user computing device or special purpose sensor or telemetry device that requests the execution of or receives for execution a set of commands, procedures, or applications from or provides data to another computer system that is typically referred to as a server or is otherwise managed by the server. Multiple Client Devices may share access to a common server. A Client Device may have some processing capability or be programmable to allow a user to do work. Licensee must obtain Managed Client Device entitlements for every Client Device managed by the Program.

Examples include Wi-Fi Access Points, ICMP Availability Only Devices, Home Router, Laptops, IP sensors, and IP Phones.

Non-Licensed Devices

Non-Licensed Devices is not an IBM licensing metric, but instead a catch-all classification for SevOne NPM devices that are not counted against Managed Device or Managed Client Device licenses. Currently *SelfMon* devices and *Calculation Devices* are the only non-licensed device types.

- **SelfMon Devices** - Devices created by the “Self Monitoring” processes within SevOne NPM. These devices are SevOne peers or containers running parts of the SevOne application and are contained within the *SevOne* or *Self Monitoring* device groups. Admins should manually pin SevOne devices to this Device Group in cases where they do not populate devices created by the “Self Monitoring” processes within SevOne NPM. These devices are SevOne peers or containers running parts of the SevOne application and are contained within the *SevOne* device group, which is located under *All Device Groups > Manufacturer > SevOne*. Admins should manually pin SevOne devices to this Device Group in cases where they do not populate automatically.
- **COC Devices*** - Devices solely for the organization of Calculation Poller or Group Poller objects when it is not feasible or logical to associate them with pre-existing, managed devices or managed client devices like a router or other network devices. For a device to be considered a *COC Device or Group Poller Device*, 100% of its objects must come from the Calculation Poller or Group Poller plugin.

** Automatic classification for these devices was implemented across different versions of NMS, so behavior may vary depending on the version deployed. Full automation for Device Licence Type classification was first delivered in NMS 8.0.*

How to report license consumption

IBM SevOne version 8.0 added automatic classification for every device to make it easy for IBM SevOne customers to report on *Contractual Metering* metrics.

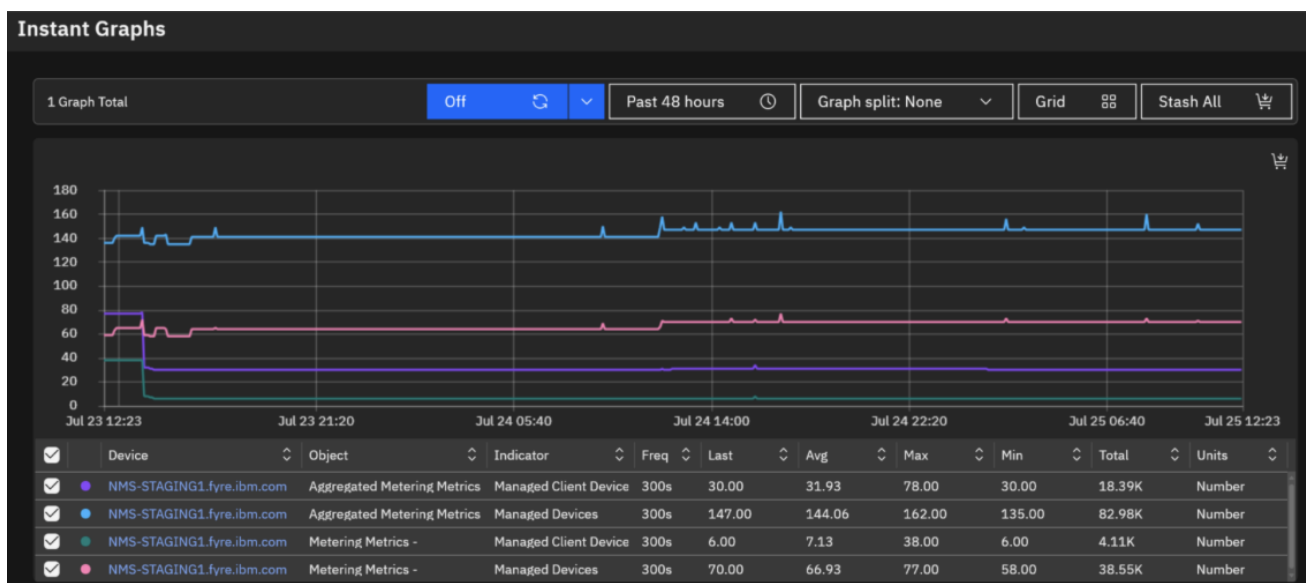
The *Cluster Status* tab in the DI *Data Sources* page provides a quick way to check the metering usage of NMS clusters. For reporting licensed device usage, all one must do is capture the *Metering Metrics* for each NMS data source. This data can be queried remotely using the </api/v3/statistics/cluster/metering> endpoint.

Cluster Status Peers Proxies Datasource Settings			
Cluster Info		Metering	
Column	Value	Column	Value
Version	8.1.0	Total Devices	181
Cluster Name	NMS Staging 1	Managed Devices	147
Cluster Leader Name	NMS-1	Managed Client Devices	30
# Of Peers	2		

How does this work?

New objects called *Metering Metrics* and *Aggregated Metering Metrics* were added to each peer's self-monitoring device to track device license changes at the peer and cluster levels respectively. These objects and indicators are used to populate the *Cluster Status* UI as shown above and can be graphed over time for more granular visibility of license fluctuation.

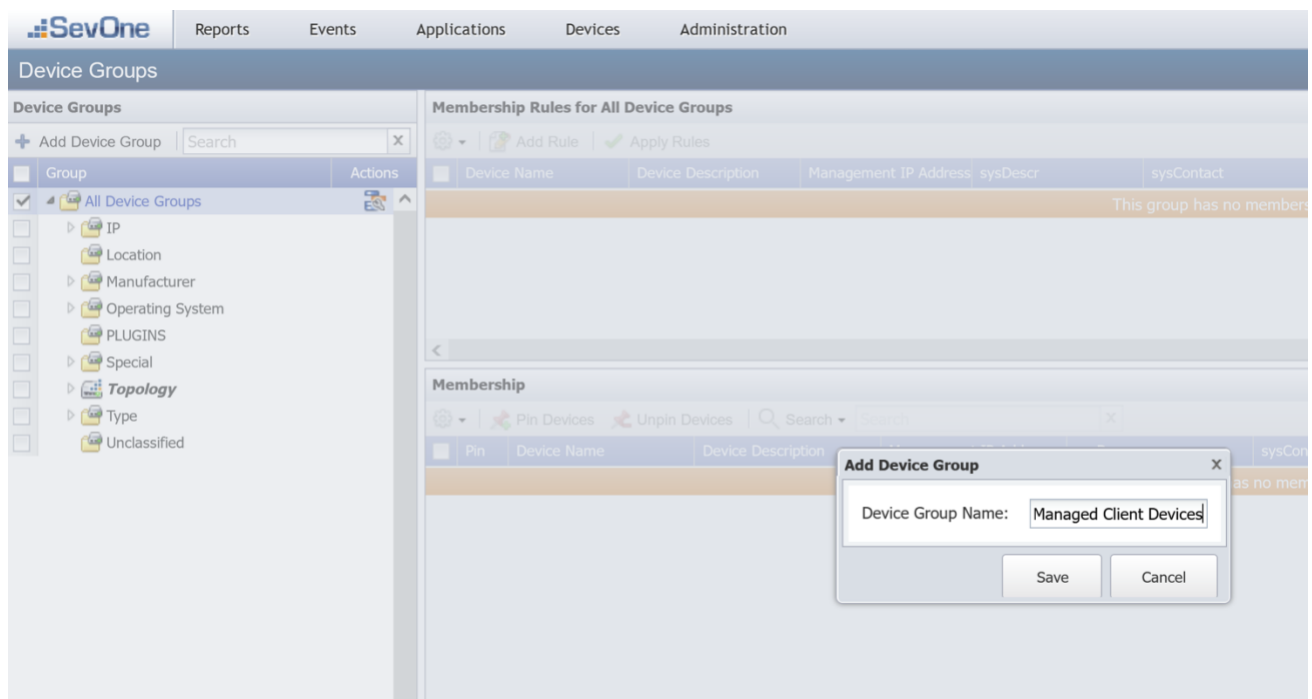
In the example below, notice the difference between *Managed Device* and *Managed Client Device* on the *NMS-STAGING1* peer for the *Metering Metrics* vs the *Aggregated Metering Metrics* object, which represents the aggregation of the metering metrics for all peers in the cluster. Additional unlicensed device classifications are available but are not shown.



The 8.0 release will also automatically use the metadata attribute *Device:LicenceType* to classify every device when it is discovered so that 100% of devices are automatically associated to a *metering* classification. These changes are reflected in the *Metering Metrics* objects for each peer.

How to measure license consumption up until V7.2.X

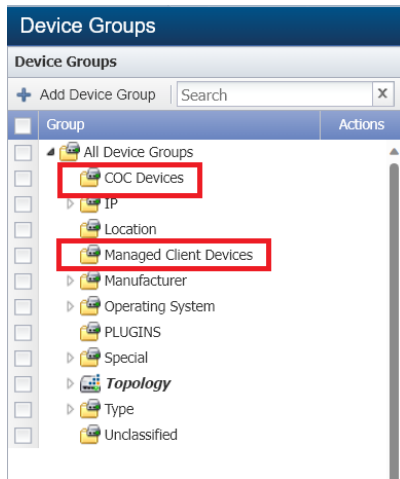
The following instructions related to versions of the program until V7.2.X. In case you are running such an older version, it is easier to audit the difference between the count of Managed Devices and Managed Client Devices if the latter are organized in a dedicated device group. In order to do that, the first step is to create the group to contain these devices.



With this group created, SevOne admins can manually pin or create device group rules to automatically manage membership to the *Managed Client Devices* group based on their contract terms with IBM. Automation of MCD group membership via a combination of metadata application and Device Group rules to match the associated metadata is recommended.

Creation and Population of a COC Device Group

In order to screen out COC Devices as non-licensed devices, a dedicated Device Group to contain these devices must be created and populated.



Only devices where 100% of objects originate from the Calculation Poller Plugin may be added to this device group.

Counting Device Utilization

The Cluster Manager UI shows administrators a breakdown of devices managed by the application. As of NMS version 6.3.0, these devices are differentiated into two categories:

- Licensed Devices
- Selfmon Devices

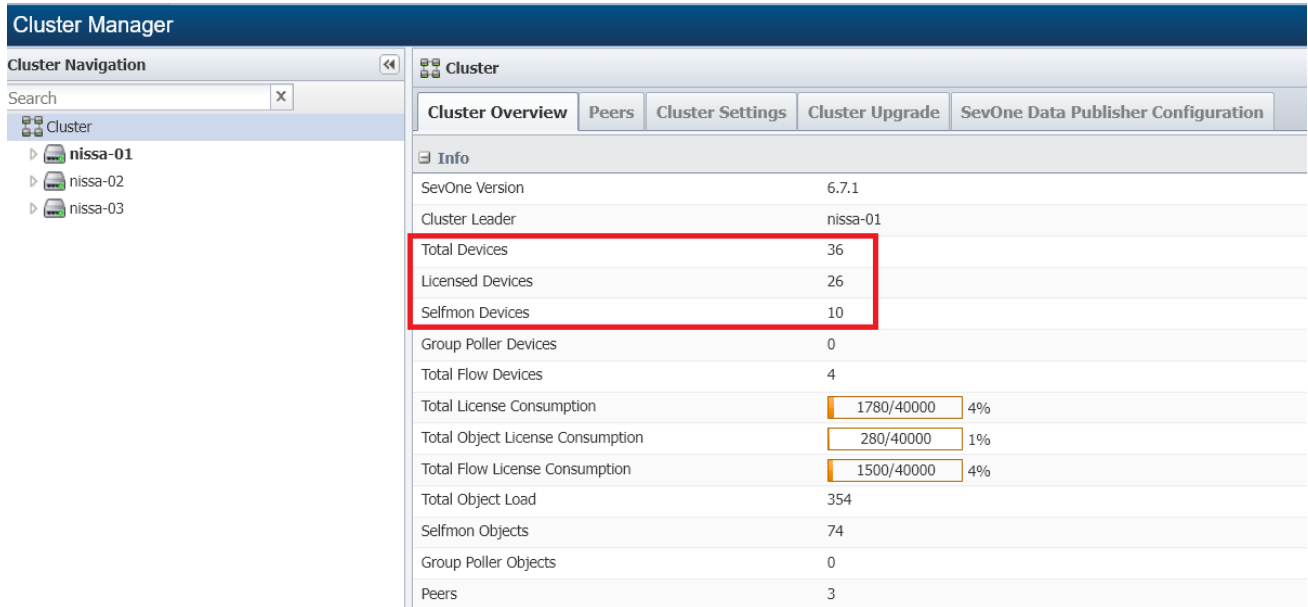
Selfmon Devices are SevOne devices monitored by the application for self-monitoring. In most cases, this number is less than or equal to the total number of SevOne NPM appliances in the cluster.

Licensed Devices are all other devices managed by the platform.

As of NMS 6.8, the NMS appliance does not yet calculate the breakout of *Managed Devices* vs *Managed Client Devices*, nor does it deduct COC Devices from the Total License Consumption. To manually calculate these statistics for IBM license compliance, take the number of *Licensed Devices* from the NMS UI and break out the number of *Managed Client Devices* and *COC Devices*, if any.

Walkthrough

In the example below, this NMS cluster has 26 Licensed Devices, which is the Total Devices of 36 minus the 10 Selfmon devices.



Cluster Manager

Cluster Navigation

Search

Cluster

- nissa-01
- nissa-02
- nissa-03

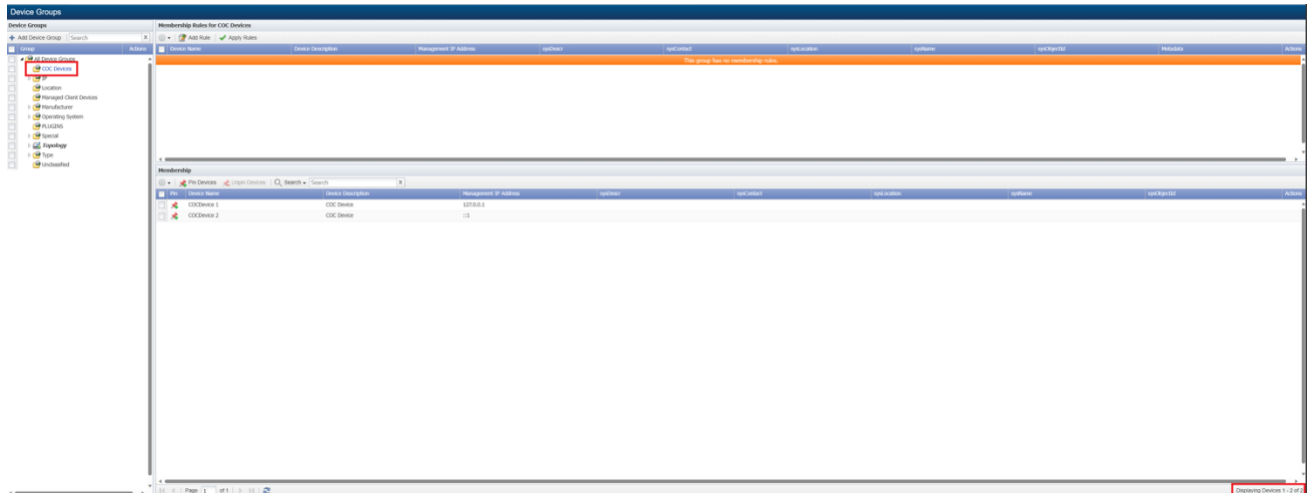
Cluster

Cluster Overview | Peers | Cluster Settings | Cluster Upgrade | SevOne Data Publisher Configuration

Info

SevOne Version	6.7.1
Cluster Leader	nissa-01
Total Devices	36
Licensed Devices	26
Selfmon Devices	10
Group Poller Devices	0
Total Flow Devices	4
Total License Consumption	1780/40000 4%
Total Object License Consumption	280/40000 1%
Total Flow License Consumption	1500/40000 4%
Total Object Load	354
Selfmon Objects	74
Group Poller Objects	0
Peers	3

Next, deduct the number of *COC Devices*. This cluster has 2 *COC Devices*, which brings our licensed device count down to 24.



Device Groups

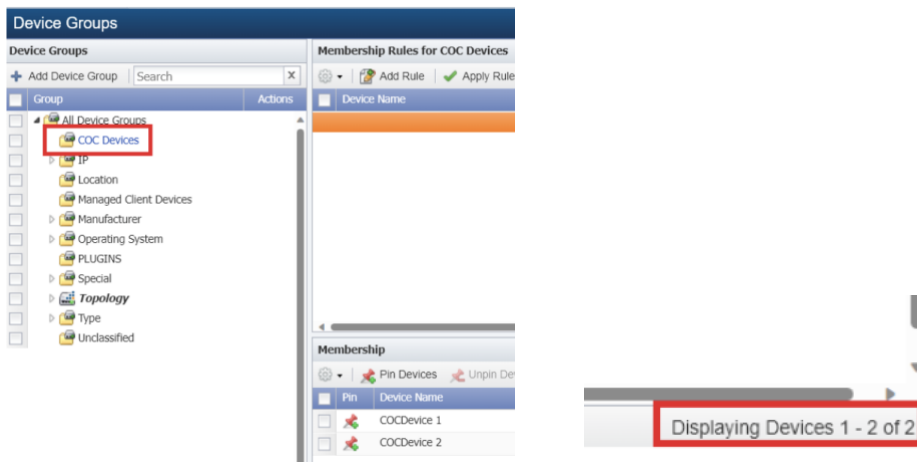
Membership Rules for COC Devices

Group: COC Devices

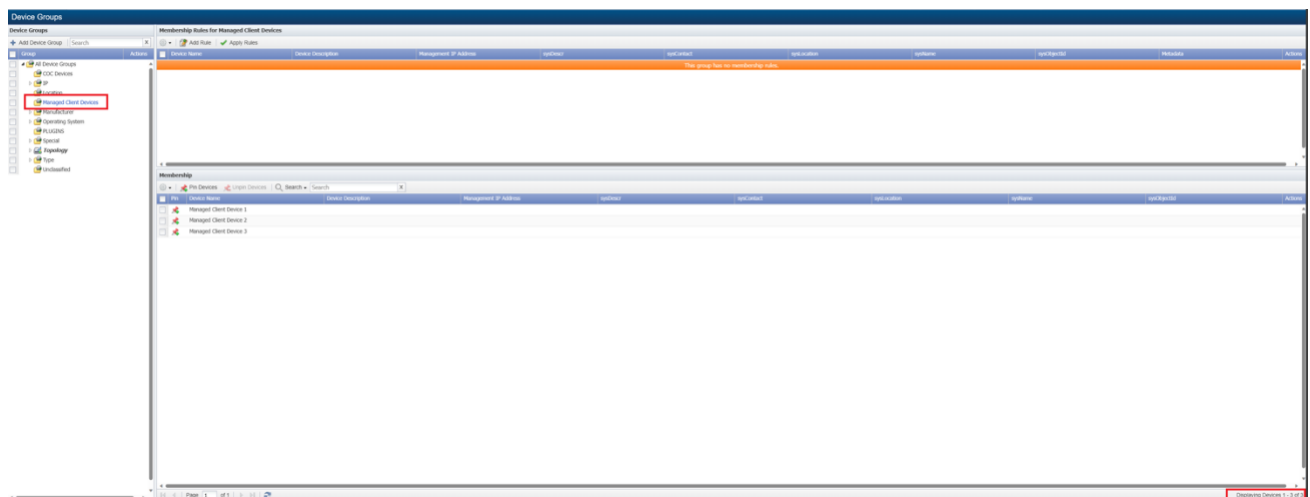
Membership

Device Name	Device Information	Management IP Address	IP Address	IP Address	IP Address	IP Address	IP Address	IP Address	IP Address
COCDevice 1	COC Device	10.10.10.1	10.10.10.1	10.10.10.1	10.10.10.1	10.10.10.1	10.10.10.1	10.10.10.1	10.10.10.1
COCDevice 2	COC Device	10.10.10.2	10.10.10.2	10.10.10.2	10.10.10.2	10.10.10.2	10.10.10.2	10.10.10.2	10.10.10.2

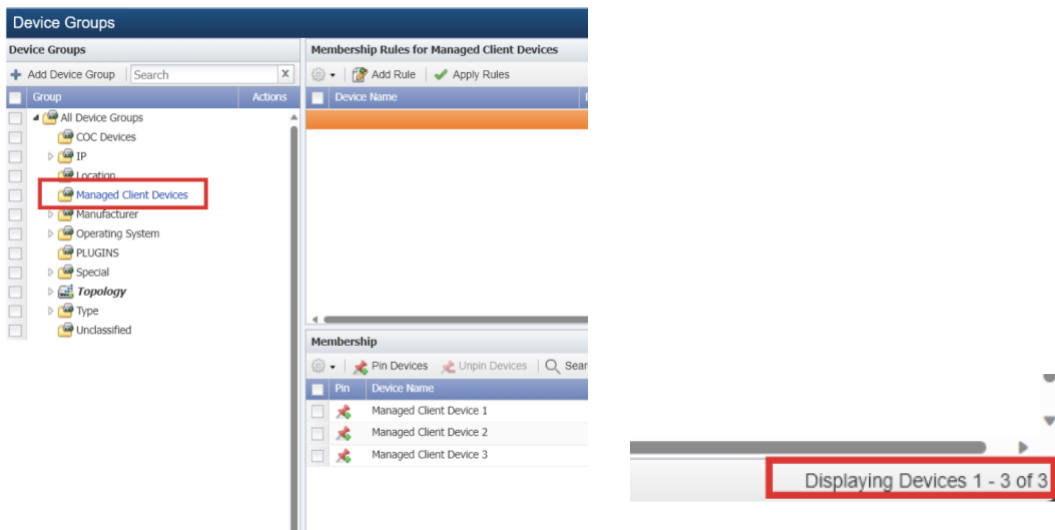
Enlarging for better visibility



Finally, the Licensed Device count should be broken down into *Managed Device* and *Managed Client Device* components if any are present. There are 3 *Managed Client Device* in this cluster.



Enlarging for better visibility:



As a result, for compliance reporting this cluster has:

- 21 *Managed Devices*
- 3 *Managed Client Devices*.

Non-licensable installation and/or use

Backup and Standby Installations

Installations solely used for backup and standby purposes (and users logging into those installations) may not require a license. Such installations are intended to enable clients to continue to be operational if an emergency occurs and servers stop working, without requiring additional entitlements.

IBM has published policies for determining whether a backup or standby installation requires a license:

- one for programs licensed under the [International Program License Agreement \(“IPLA”\) or Customer Relationship Agreement \(“CRA”\)](#)
- one for programs licensed under the older [IBM Customer Agreement \(“ICA”\)](#)

The [Backup and Disaster Recovery licensing guide](#) explains in more detail whether a license is needed for installations by reference to the type of configuration.

If any installations are backup and/or standby installations which meet the criteria set out in the IBM policy, such installations should not be included as licensable installations. Ensure to keep a record of the reason why these installations do not require a license, along with any backing evidence that you are able to obtain to this effect.

Installations subject to Temporary Additional Use authorization

Under specific scenarios (such as datacenter migrations, system-to-system migrations) IBM authorizes clients to use additional installations for non-production use for a period of up to 90 days. This is set out in a [policy document](#) on the IBM website.

Before discarding any installation from the license count ensure that the installation complies with the three main principles of the policy:

1. The reason for the additional installation must fall under one of the valid scenarios listed in the policy.
2. The installation must not be older than 90 days (by reference to the date it was installed and the date the count is being performed). If it is older than 90 days, ensure that specific authorization has been gained from IBM for its continued use, and that this is documented.
3. The other, licensable installations of the program are properly licensed. If there are license shortfalls or use outside of the terms of the applicable license agreement(s), then the Temporary Additional Use authorization does not apply.

Part Numbers

To ensure that you have the most up-to-date information available, please use the **Product Search** functionality on the IBM Software Licensing & Compliance website.

The following link takes you to the specific results for this Program:

https://www.ibm.com/about/software-licensing/us-en/product_search?search=5900-AN1

Source Materials

License Information Document/(s)

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The following link takes you to the specific results for this Program:

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IBM Offering Information

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